# WEEKLY REPORT TO THE TOWN COUNCIL

Week ending July 28, 2011

# ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

### **Finance**

**Business Licenses** – A total of seven new Business Licenses were issued.

### In Town:

Alternative Healthcare & Wellness Association DBA Full Spectrum Wellness Center/Fountain Hills Wellness Center – 13225 North Verde River Drive #102 Mimosa 12835 LLC – 12835 North Mimosa Drive Wattle 12803 LLC – 12803 North Mimosa Drive

Wizibo Distributing DBA Miche Bags – 16508 East Laser Drive #102 S & C Meredith LLC DBA Alamo Saloon – 11807 Saguaro Blvd

### Out of Town:

Western Millwork, Inc. - Phoenix, AZ Carlson Solar Technologies, LLC - Tempe, AZ

# **Economic Development**

**Business Attraction, Retail** — Staff has been working to attract national retailers to the Fountain Hills market and is currently working with two retailers who anticipate moving forward with a location in Fountain Hills. Staff met with the architect for one retailer to discuss concept plan requirements as well as reviewing the approval process. We anticipate working with this retailer over the next several months for a "locate" in Fountain Hills.

Staff continues to interact with Senor Taco's architect on the second location for the restaurant at the "Quiznos" plaza on Fountain Hills Blvd. The tenant improvement plans were submitted at the end of June, and staff's review and the Sanitary District's review were completed the following week. Based on the review, the architect is currently working on some redesigns as required by the Sanitary District. Staff will continue to assist Senor Taco through the location process.

Staff is working with the leasing agents for Four Peaks Plaza (Target center) to attract a national sporting goods retailer, and provided market data and other information to support these efforts. The *Fountain Hills Retail Market Analysis* clearly indicates a demand for the "sporting goods" category due to significant trade leakage to other markets. This retail category has zero market saturation in Fountain Hills.

Plans are underway for Fountain Hills to be represented at International Council of Shopping Centers' (ICSC) Western Division Conference in September in San Diego. The Town is partnering with six other Arizona communities for joint booth space, as well as a networking reception for retailers, developers, leasing agents, and retail property owners.

Staff continues to work with an international company to bring their new health spa concept to Fountain Hills. This work has resulted in Fountain Hills being chosen as their preferred location. An offer has been submitted on property in Fountain Hills.

**Business Attraction, Office Users** — Staff is working with GPEC to potentially visit office/industrial brokers and companies in the San Diego market. If office/industrial brokers and companies can be identified, the visit will be done in conjunction with the ICSC Western Division Conference.



### **DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

## Planning and Zoning

The Fountain Hills Wellness Center, located on Verde River Drive in Plat 208, is requesting a Special Use Permit to allow the establishment of a residential unit on-site. This application is scheduled to be heard by the Planning & Zoning Commission on July 28 and by the Town Council on August 18.

The Sunflower Foundation has requested a Temporary Use Permit for an Outdoor Charity Event called "Operation Home Front." The event is proposed to be held in the parking lot of Plat 202 on November 5. The TUP application is currently pending the required 10-day objection period. If no objection is filed, staff will issue the permit. If an objection is received, staff will schedule a hearing with the Town Council for a final decision.

The first Sign Committee meeting was held Thursday, July 28, at 7:30 a.m. in Town Hall. The initial meeting acquainted all the members with each other and generally outlined the expected procedures that will be used for future meetings. The Committee will meet every Thursday morning (except Chamber Breakfast Thursdays) until the work is complete.

At noon on Monday, August 1, the Fountain Hills Sanitary District will test their chlorine leak alarm siren. The purpose of this test is to ensure that the installation works properly and that all employees can hear the siren even while working inside buildings containing noisy equipment. The siren is expected to be loud, with a blast duration lasting less than one minute. Continued quarterly testing will occur again on the first Mondays in November and February.

# **Code Enforcement**

Code Enforcement has opened 55 cases so far for the month of July, and no new green pools have been reported in the past two weeks.

Staff has been working on a number of cases regarding unlicensed businesses in Town. Fountain Hills Rural/Metro Fire Department has been completing commercial inspections for all business locations throughout Town and turning the information over to our Administration Department. Administration staff cross-references the business license database with the information they are provided and if there is no licensed business at that location, they send out a letter advising them to apply for a license. If there is no response to the letter, Code Enforcement staff follows up with an on-site visit to investigate the matter and, in most cases, request that they apply for a license.

The large palo verde tree on Fountain Hills Blvd. that had been destroyed as a result of a traffic accident was removed by the Street Department. Code Enforcement staff had recommended that the tree be removed as soon as possible to limit the potential fire hazard, and the family apparently notified other Town staff members of the desire to see the tree removed quickly as well.

### **Building Safety**

Permits Issued		Applications Received	
Tenant Improvements	3	Single Family Residence	1
Gas Line	3	Tenant Improvement	5
Water Heater	6	Addition	1
Sign	3	Gas Line	3
Addition	1	Water Heater	6
Pool	1	Sign	6
Electric	1	Electric	1
Fence	1	Fence	1
Misc.	3	Solar	2
Total	21	Pool	1
		Misc.	3
		Total	30

### Streets

In order to safely complete the rubberized asphalt overlay, Shea Blvd. will be closed in both directions the nights of August 2, 3 and 4, from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. The detour route during the closure will be on Kingstree from Saguaro to Fountain Hills Blvd. Access to the Target complex and other local businesses will be maintained. "Local traffic only"

will be able to use Shea Blvd. from Saguaro Blvd. to Technology Drive. Balera residents and guests will be escorted through the construction zone as needed during this time (but have been asked to avoid doing so to the extent feasible).

During the overnight paving and detour the traffic signals on Shea Blvd. at Saguaro Blvd., Center Lane, Technology Drive, and Fountain Hills Blvd. will be flashing red in all directions (an All-Way Stop) and an MCSO deputy will be in place at both the west and east ends of the closure. An MCSO deputy will also be in a vehicle driving through the construction zone and the detour route.

Staff has been in contact with ADOT's public relations department who will notify local radio and television media of the upcoming closure. Staff has also been in contact with the Firerock and Balera HOAs, as they will be most affected by the closure. The Town's engineering inspector will be on-site during the night work as well.

# Engineering

Decomposed granite will be placed in the new medians of the Shea Gap Overlay project this upcoming week. The asphalt base course has now been placed for the south bike lane and the full depth patched areas within the project.

Millings from the Shea Gap Overlay project were placed for dust (PM-10) control, at no cost, on several of the Town's dirt alleys and at several of Fountain Hills Sanitary District's and Chaparral City Water Company's dirt access roads .

The Town's Street Department will be upgrading/changing out the Traffic Signal controller and cabinet on Fountain Hills Blvd. at El Lago Blvd. next Wednesday overnight. As on their other recent Traffic Signal cabinet change-outs, an MCSO deputy will be on-site controlling the intersection during the time that the traffic signal is dark.

# **COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

# **Community Center**

The Center was open for 28 events during five days, for a total of 49 hours out of a potential 87 hours and a 56.3% utilization rate. Operation staff cleaned and sanitized Senior Services wheelchairs and walkers that were covered in dust from the recent dust storms.

# Senior Services

Interviews were conducted late last week from a list of applicants that were received to replace the Home Delivered Meals Coordinator. A person was chosen and reference and background checks were completed this week by Human Resources. The new person will begin her new role in mid-August.

# Parks

The Parks Division is busy with maintenance and repairs at each park facility. We continue to work on irrigation, ball field prep, drinking fountains, tree trimming, turf maintenance, and many other routine tasks this week.

Golden Eagle Park hosted the **Piestewa Native American Games** on July 22, 23, and 24. Staff received many compliments from the participants on the quality of the softball fields and how well the tournament was run. With thirty-four softball teams involved, this was the largest number of teams that the Games have ever hosted.

The mowing and irrigation schedules remain the same at **Fountain Park**, with mowing on Wednesdays and overnight watering six days a week from 11:30 p.m. to 4:30 a.m. The Sanitary District will be in the northeast section of the park working on maintenance/repairs to their recharge well for approximately two more weeks.

**The Rotary Splash Park** continues to be as popular as ever with many visitors each day. The equipment operations have gone fairly well the first four months, with some minor repairs to the activation sensors and water feature valves.

Staff helped install the foundation for the third Commemorative Column in Fountain Park. The **Greening of Downtown Committee** is in the process of getting the third column fabricated for installation in August.

# Recreation

The last **Party in the Park** of the summer will be held tonight (Thursday, July 28) from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Golden Eagle Park. The event is geared for kids entering grades 6-9. There will be music and lots of fun activities and games.

Kathy Worrell and Bryan Hughes attended a breakfast meeting on Wednesday, July 27, hosted by Sami and Stephenie of Sami's Fine Jewelry to discuss this year's **Halloween in the Hills** on the Avenue of the Fountains. Several local merchants attended the meeting held at the Fireside Grill, and everyone is very excited about this year's event.

Registrations are still being accepted for programs scheduled to begin over the next month, including **CPR/AED for the Community and Workplace** and **Jr. Golf Lessons**.